

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-4 are pending and at issue.

The rejections of all of the claims based on Grundstrom 2,127,355 are traversed. Claim 1 recites a pair of protective pants having two legs portions each of which has a lower region having a layer of puncture-resistant material which is resistant to punctures by snakes or by thorny or spiky plants. This structure is neither shown nor suggested in Grundstrom. In this regard, the tubular members 12 provided in the lower regions of the pants of Grundstrom are made from a heat-resistant material, not a puncture-resistant material, and there is nothing in Grundstrom to indicate that the heat resistant material provides any benefits whatsoever or in any way with respect to punctures. Accordingly, for this reason alone, the rejections of claim 1 and its dependent claims is improper and should be withdrawn.

To the extent that the rejections on Grundstrom are restated in a future Office Action, it is respectfully requested that the above discussed structure in claim 1 be specifically addressed together with an explanation of how such structure is shown in Grundstrom.

In view of the forgoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections of claims 1-4 and allowance of the case.

Respectfully submitted,

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